(b) if so, the details thereof, including the modalities proposed for disposal of the scrap and machinery set up to over-see the mutilation or smelting of the barrels etc. before scrapping the weapons?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Obsolete equipment including vehicles of all types, armament and other equipment are disposed off by the Army in order to maintain proper levels of inventory, through Metal and Scrap Trading Corporation and through ordnance factories.

(b) 767 obsolete Vijayanta tanks have been offered for disposal through e-auction by Metal and Scrap Trading Corporation. These tanks will be stripped of all items of a security nature namely guns, communication equipment, surveillance equipment and will then be mutilated to make them innocuous.

In addition to the above, around 681.72 metric tonnes of armament is awaiting disposal by the ordnance factories under the Ministry of Defence. These items will be dispatched under escort to the ordnance factory where smelting is undertaken and sent direct to the furnace under supervision of a Board of Officers. Scrapped equipment is demilitarised and mutilated before disposal.

Fire safety norms in multi-storey buildings

*479. SHRI K.B. KRISHNAMURTHY:
SHRI R.K.ANAND:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 2500 multi-storey buildings in the capital are not adhering to the fire safety norms; and

(b) what action has been taken/is being taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) In a survey conducted in 2003, the Delhi Fire Service had identified 2506 high rise buildings constructed after 1983 which did not have the requisite fire prevention and fire safety arrangements. Delhi Fire Service has initiated action to ensure installation of fire prevention and fire safety measures in high rise buildings which includes issuance of public notices through newspapers calling upon the owners/occupiers of the buildings of more than 15 metres in height to provide fire prevention and fire safety measures in accordance with the

law; carrying out inspections of such buildings to see the progress of providing fire prevention/safety measures; and issuing orders for disconnection of supplies of electricity and water to such buildings.

Target for providing electricity to every household

† *480. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed a target to provide electricity to every house in the country in the next four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the preparations made by Government so far to achieve this target;

(d) the number of houses in Uttar Pradesh targeted to be provided with electricity under this target in the years 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to achieve this target within the scheduled time (four years)?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (e) A new scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification has been launched for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme of completing Rural Household Electrification in five years.

Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for:

(i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11 kV (or 66/11 kV) sub-station in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.

(ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all unelectrified villages/habitations with distribution transformers) in every village/habitation.

(iii) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System for Villages/Habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).

The scheme provides for electrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country free of charge.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.